

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BULLETIN

JUNE 17, 1944

VOL. X, No. 260—PUBLICATION 2145

Contents

THE WAR	Page
Allied Military Operations in Europe:	
Report by General Eisenhower to the President . .	549
Acknowledgments by President Roosevelt of Mes- sages From Various Officials of the United Nations	549
Messages Exchanged Between the Prime Minister of Greece and the Secretary of State	552
Post-War Security Organization Program: Statement by the President	552
Removal of European Refugees to the United States: Message of the President to the Congress	553
GENERAL	
Opportunities for Women in the Conduct of Inter- national Relations: Address by Assistant Secretary Shaw	555
ICELAND	
Independence of the Republic of Iceland:	
Messages of President Roosevelt to the President of Iceland and of the Secretary of State to the Minister of Foreign Affairs	557
Address by the Honorable Louis G. Dreyfus, Jr. . .	557
The Icelandic Independence Movement: By <i>William C. Trimble</i>	559
Presentation of Letters of Credence by the United States Minister to Iceland	563

[OVER]



Contents—CONTINUED

FAR EAST	Page
Visit of President of Amoy University to the United States	564
EUROPE	
Minister of Finland Requested to Leave the United States	565
Visit to the United States of the Polish Prime Minister .	565
AMERICAN REPUBLICS	
Proposal for Rescue of Refugees from German Territory	566
Presentation of Letters of Credence by the Ambassador of Costa Rica	566
TREATY INFORMATION	
Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences . . .	567
Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic . .	567
Provisional Fur-Seal Agreement Between the United States and Canada	568
Protocol on Pelagic Whaling	568
THE DEPARTMENT	
Appointment of Officers	568
PUBLICATIONS	568
LEGISLATION	568

JUL 11 1944

The War

ALLIED MILITARY OPERATIONS IN EUROPE

Report by General Eisenhower to the President

[Released to the press by the White House June 13]

On June 6th we initiated the first vital step leading to the decisive battle of Europe. The first great obstacle has been surmounted—that is the breaching of the beach defenses that the enemy by lavish employment of enslaved labor had installed in forest-like density along the entire lateral of northwest Europe. Gallantry, fortitude and skill were called for, and these, in abundant measure, the entire allied force has displayed since the opening day of the battle. A particularly satisfying feature of the fighting has been the fine performance of troops—American, British, and Canadian—committed to battle for the first time. Just as they did and are still doing in the Mediterranean, these untried allied units have conducted themselves in a manner worthy of their more experienced comrades who conquered the German in Africa, Sicily and Italy.

What is more important, complete unity between the air, ground and naval services has prevailed.

Satisfactory as is the progress of this battle to date, in magnitude it is but a mere beginning to

the tremendous struggles that must follow before final victory is achieved. Although the cross-channel landing operation was attended by hazards and difficulties greater, I believe, than have ever before faced an invading army, this initial success has given us only a foothold upon northwestern France. Through the opening thus made, and through others yet to come, the flood of our fighting strength must be poured. Our operations, vast and important as they are, are only part of the far larger pattern of a combined assault against the fortress of Germany by the great Russian armies from the East and our forces from the Mediterranean.

The Nazis will be forced to fight throughout the perimeter of their stronghold, daily expending their dwindling resources until overwhelmed by the hopelessness of their position. To this end we need every man, every weapon, and all the courage and fortitude of our respective peoples. The allied soldier will do his duty.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Acknowledgments by President Roosevelt of Messages From Various Officials of the United Nations

[Released to the press by the White House June 14]

On June 7 the press was given texts of cablegrams and acknowledgments exchanged between the President of the United States and various government and military officials of the United Nations.¹ The texts of the President's acknowledgments follow:

To the King of Greece

I am grateful for your message of congratulations on the fall of Rome. Our successful Allied armies in Italy and in the East have now been

joined in the all-out struggle for the liberation of the continent by the forces who have landed in France. I know that their progress will be attended by the prayerful hopes of the entire Greek people.

To the President of Brazil

I am deeply moved by the sentiments expressed by Your Excellency on behalf of yourself and of the people of Brazil on the occasion of the first day of the landing of Allied troops in France to effect

¹ BULLETIN of June 10, 1944, p. 528.

the liberation of the captive populations of Europe and to restore peace to the world.

I shall take pleasure in transmitting to General Eisenhower the inspiring message of the Chief of the Government of our great Ally, Brazil, who is also sending her valiant sons to fight the foes of liberty on distant battlefields.

To the President of the Costa Rican Congress

Please convey to the Costa Rican Congress my thanks for its message of encouragement and support sent in connection with the initiation of military operations for the liberation of Europe. Though the campaign may be difficult I have faith in the victory of the United Nations.

To the President of Honduras

I am happy to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram expressing the fervent hopes and prayers of the Honduran nation that victory will crown the attack of the United Nations upon the fortress of Europe. The battle will unquestionably be hard but I am wholly confident that the outcome will be a triumph for the forces of liberation.

To the President of the Republic of Peru

I have received with the greatest of pleasure Your Excellency's cordial message of June 5, sent on the occasion of the liberation of the city of Rome by the armies of the United Nations. I agree with Your Excellency that this event constitutes a decisive step toward the inevitable final triumph over the forces of our enemies. The liberation of Rome by the combined United Nations armies proves the great strength of the present union of free peoples the world over against the tyranny of the Axis powers. The people of the United States of America are also particularly pleased that this was effected without the destruction of the historic monuments of the Eternal City. I take great pleasure in cordially reciprocating Your Excellency's kind expression of personal esteem.

To the President of the National Government of the Republic of China

On behalf of the forces of the United States I thank you for your heartening message on the liberation of Rome. This achievement was made possible by the inspiration, unity and swiftly

mounting strength of our democratic cause, and I am supremely confident that these factors will soon bring us greater victories which will ensure the destruction of Axis tyranny not only in Europe but also in Asia.

To the King of Egypt

I have received with deep appreciation Your Majesty's message of felicitation on the occasion of the liberation of Rome. It is my hope also that the armies of freedom soon shall triumph over the forces of the Axis aggressors.

To the President of the Republic of Colombia

I deeply appreciate Your Excellency's inspiring message in which you have expressed in this momentous hour the deep and fervent spirit of the Colombian people who are united with us in the determination to achieve the liberation of those peoples cruelly enslaved by our common enemy. We may look forward with full confidence, that, through the sacrifice and devotion to the just cause to which our nations have dedicated themselves, ultimate victory will bring justice and freedom to the world.

To the President of the Republic of Paraguay

I take great pleasure in expressing my appreciation for Your Excellency's message of June 6 on the occasion of the landing of United States forces in France.

The decisive phase of the battle of liberation has begun with realistic appreciation of the long road that lies ahead and with complete confidence in ultimate victory.

To the President of Haiti

I wish to express my appreciation for your telegram conveying the congratulations of the Haitian people and Government upon the occasion of the occupation of Rome and the initiation of the campaign for the liberation of Europe. Though the road may be hard, I am certain of the ultimate victory of the United Nations.

To the President of the Senate of Chile

Thank you for the message which you and Don Fernando Altamirano Z. were kind enough to send on behalf of the Senate of Chile on the occasion of the landings made by the Allied armies

in northern France. It gives me deep satisfaction to know that the good wishes and support of the Chilean Senate are with us during this supremely critical phase of the war.

To the Prime Minister of Belgium

I deeply appreciate your kind message of June 6. The victory of the Allies in Italy is an auspicious beginning of the liberation of the enslaved peoples of Europe. You may be sure that our unsparing efforts will not cease until the enemy has been crushed and freedom has been restored to your brave fellow countrymen.

To the President of the Dominican Republic

I am happy to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of congratulations on the initial success obtained by the Allied Armies in the campaign for the liberation of Europe. Though the campaign may be difficult, I have faith in the victory of the United Nations.

To the Prime Minister of Australia

Thank you for your message of congratulation upon the liberation of Rome and your tribute to the gallant forces of the United Nations. We may be justly proud of this splendid accomplishment by our combined forces. This example of complete cooperation and coordination of effort gives us high hopes for the success of the still greater task to which our combined armies have now set themselves on the Continent of Europe.

The following wires from various foreign governments were received too late for inclusion in the June 7, 1944 release. Texts of the messages and of the President's replies are as follows:

The President of Guatemala to the President

I am happy to felicitate Your Excellency upon the occupation of Rome by the victorious North American troops and I express my desire that the invincible army of the United Nations may continue its triumphant march forward.

The President to the President of Guatemala

Please accept my thanks for your telegram of felicitations upon the taking of Rome. I rejoice

that this was possible without destruction of its many monuments of religion, of history and of culture.

The President of Ecuador to the President

I greet Your Excellency and assure you of my pleasure at the transcendental victories in France, the nation of freedom, of the North American armies which have demonstrated to the world the inevitable arrival of the hour of the people and of justice.

The President to the President of Ecuador

I deeply appreciate Your Excellency's friendly message at this time when the Armies of the United Nations are engaging in tremendous and sacrificial struggle which we know must precede the liberation of Europe. I am wholly confident of the ultimate victory which will assure throughout the world the reign of the principles of justice and freedom to which our nations are dedicated.

The Emperor of Ethiopia to the President

The entire Ethiopian people are following the opening of the invasion with their prayers to the God of victories for the triumphant outcome of the historic campaign to which the whole American nation is committed. May the fall of Rome be speedily followed by the rapid fall of the remaining strongholds of Axis resistance.

The President to the Emperor of Ethiopia

I thank Your Majesty most warmly for your message.

In this titanic struggle the American people are supported in their will to triumph by the knowledge that staunch and unfailing allies stand by their side and by the prayers and good wishes of honorable men everywhere. Victory will come. Your Majesty's message cheers us on the way.

The President of the United States of Venezuela to the President

Yesterday, when the glorious Allied forces began the most important stage of this war in which the sons of Your Excellency's noble country are struggling with intrepid valor, will pass into

history as one of the symbolic dates of the struggle for the principles of liberty and justice which the democratic countries support. The Government and the people of Venezuela who share the same ideals have received with keen emotion the first news and express their sincere wishes for the success of the present campaign. To these, I add my personal wishes.

The President to the President of the United States of Venezuela

I deeply appreciate Your Excellency's friendly and inspiring message conveying your wishes and those of the Government and people of Venezuela for the successful outcome of the momentous struggle which has just been initiated in France. This military action will lead to the fulfillment of the fervent desires of free people the world over that freedom, liberty and justice shall be guaranteed to all.

Messages Exchanged Between the Prime Minister of Greece and the Secretary of State

[Released to the press June 15]

The Secretary of State has received the following message of congratulation from the Prime Minister of Greece under date of June 8, 1944:

Please accept and transmit to the American Government and people and to the gallant armed forces of the United States the congratulations of the Hellenic Government and myself for the historical victory of the capture of Rome and our heartfelt wishes for the success of the mighty endeavour which began yesterday on the shores of France. The Greek people who were the first to defeat the Italians in their untried pride and aggressiveness have hailed the fate of the second capital of the Axis as the infallible omen of greater and final victories which may God grant to your forces now engaged on their heroic crusade.

GEORGE PAPANDREOU

The following reply was sent to M. Papandreou on June 14:

I greatly appreciate Your Excellency's message of congratulations on the occasion of the fall of Rome and the successful launching of the invasion from the West. The day of liberation of occupied Europe is surely dawning. It is the earnest hope of all Americans that this long-awaited prospect will give to the Greek people renewed strength and unity for the reconstruction of their free national life.

CORDELL HULL

POST-WAR SECURITY ORGANIZATION PROGRAM

Statement by the President

[Released to the press by the White House June 15]

The conference today with officials of the Department of State on the post-war security organization program is a continuation of conferences which have been held from time to time during the past 18 months. These conferences have enabled me to give personal attention to the development and progress of the post-war work the Department of State is doing.

All plans and suggestions from groups, organizations, and individuals have been carefully discussed and considered. I wish to emphasize the entirely non-partisan nature of these consultations. All aspects of the post-war program have been debated in a cooperative spirit. This is a tribute to the political leaders who realize that

the national interest demands a national program now. Such teamwork has met the overwhelming approval of the American people.

The maintenance of peace and security must be the joint task of all peace-loving nations. We have, therefore, sought to develop plans for an international organization comprising all such nations. The purpose of the organization would be to maintain peace and security and to assist the creation, through international cooperation, of conditions of stability and well-being necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations.

Accordingly, it is our thought that the organization would be a fully representative body with broad responsibilities for promoting and facilitating international cooperation, through such

agencies as may be found necessary, to consider and deal with the problems of world relations. It is our further thought that the organization would provide for a council, elected annually by the fully representative body of all nations, which would include the four major nations and a suitable number of other nations. The council would concern itself with peaceful settlement of international disputes and with the prevention of threats to the peace or breaches of the peace.

There would also be an international court of justice to deal primarily with justiciable disputes.

We are not thinking of a superstate with its own police forces and other paraphernalia of coercive power. We are seeking effective agreement and arrangements through which the na-

tions would maintain, according to their capacities, adequate forces to meet the needs of preventing war and of making impossible deliberate preparation for war and to have such forces available for joint action when necessary.

All this, of course, will become possible once our present enemies are defeated and effective arrangements are made to prevent them from making war again.

Beyond that, the hope of a peaceful and advancing world will rest upon the willingness and ability of the peace-loving nations, large and small, bearing responsibility commensurate with their individual capacities, to work together for the maintenance of peace and security.

REMOVAL OF EUROPEAN REFUGEES TO THE UNITED STATES

Message of the President to the Congress

[Released to the press by the White House June 12]

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES: Congress has repeatedly manifested its deep concern with the pitiful plight of the persecuted minorities in Europe whose lives are each day being offered in sacrifice on the altar of Nazi tyranny.

This Nation is appalled by the systematic persecution of helpless minority groups by the Nazis. To us the unprovoked murder of innocent people simply because of race, religion or political creed is the blackest of all possible crimes. Since the Nazis began this campaign many of our citizens in all walks of life and of all political and religious persuasions have expressed our feeling of repulsion and our anger. It is a matter with respect to which there is and can be no division of opinion amongst us.

As the hour of the final defeat of the Hitlerite forces draws closer, the fury of their insane desire to wipe out the Jewish race in Europe continues undiminished. This is but one example: Many christian groups also are being murdered. Knowing that they have lost the war, the Nazis are determined to complete their program of mass extermination. This program is but one manifestation of Hitler's aim to salvage from military defeat victory for Nazi principles—the very principles which this war must destroy unless we shall have fought in vain.

This Government has not only made clear its abhorrence of this inhuman and barbarous activity of the Nazis, but, in cooperation with other governments has endeavored to alleviate the condition of the persecuted peoples. In January of this year I determined that this Government should intensify its efforts to combat the Nazi terror. Accordingly, I established the War Refugee Board, composed of the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War. This Board was charged with the responsibility of taking all action consistent with the successful prosecution of the war to rescue the victims of enemy oppression in imminent danger of death and to afford such victims all other possible relief and assistance. It was entrusted with the solemn duty of translating this Government's humanitarian policy into prompt action, thus manifesting once again in a concrete way that our kind of world and not Hitler's will prevail. Its purpose is directly and closely related to our whole war effort.

Since its establishment, the War Refugee Board, acting through a full time administrative staff, has made a direct and forceful attack on the problem. Operating quietly, as is appropriate, the Board, through its representatives in various parts of the world, has actually succeeded in saving the lives of innocent people. Not only have refugees been evacuated from enemy territory,

but many measures have been taken to protect the lives of those who have not been able to escape.

Above all, the efforts of the Board have brought new hope to the oppressed peoples of Europe. This statement is not idle speculation. From various sources, I have received word that thousands of people, wearied by their years of resistance to Hitler and by their sufferings to the point of giving up the struggle, have been given the will and desire to continue by the concrete manifestation of this Government's desire to do all possible to aid and rescue the oppressed.

To the Hitlerites, their subordinates and functionaries and satellites, to the German people and to all other peoples under the Nazi yoke, we have made clear our determination to punish all participants in these acts of savagery. In the name of humanity we have called upon them to spare the lives of these innocent people.

Notwithstanding this Government's unrelenting efforts, which are continuing, the numbers actually rescued from the jaws of death have been small compared with the numbers still facing extinction in German territory. This is due principally to the fact that our enemies, despite all our appeals and our willingness to find havens of refuge for the oppressed peoples, persist in their fiendish extermination campaign and actively prevent the intended victims from escaping to safety.

In the face of this attitude of our enemies we must not fail to take full advantage of any opportunity, however limited, for the rescue of Hitler's victims. We are confronted with a most urgent situation.

Therefore, I wish to report to you today concerning a step which I have just taken in an effort to save additional lives and which I am certain will meet with your approval. You will, I am sure, appreciate that this measure is not only consistent with the successful prosecution of the war, but that it was essential to take action without delay.

Even before the Allied landing in Italy there had been a substantial movement of persecuted peoples of various races and nationalities into that country. This movement was undoubtedly prompted by the fact that, despite all attempts by the Fascists to stir up intolerance, the warm-hearted Italian people could not forsake their centuries-old tradition of tolerance and humanitarianism. The Allied landings swelled this stream of fleeing and hunted peoples seeking sanc-

tuary behind the guns of the United Nations. However, in view of the military situation in Italy, the number of refugees who can be accommodated there is relatively limited. The Allied military forces, in view of their primary responsibility, have not been able generally speaking to encourage the escape of refugees from enemy territory. This unfortunate situation has prevented the escape of the largest possible number of refugees. Furthermore, as the number of refugees living in southern Italy increases, their care constitutes an additional and substantial burden for the military authorities.

Recently the facilities for the care of refugees in southern Italy have become so overtaxed that unless many refugees who have already escaped to that area and are arriving daily, particularly from the Balkan countries, can be promptly removed to havens of refuge elsewhere, the escape of refugees to that area from German-occupied territory will be seriously impeded. It was apparent that prompt action was necessary to meet this situation. Many of the refugees in southern Italy have been and are being moved to temporary refuges in the territory of other United and friendly nations. However, in view of the number of refugees still in southern Italy, the problem could not be solved unless temporary havens of refuge were found for some of them in still other areas. In view of this most urgent situation it seemed indispensable that the United States in keeping with our heritage and our ideals of liberty and justice take immediate steps to share the responsibility for meeting the problem.

Accordingly, arrangements have been made to bring immediately to this country approximately 1,000 refugees who have fled from their homelands to southern Italy. Upon the termination of the war they will be sent back to their homelands. These refugees are predominantly women and children. They will be placed on their arrival in a vacated Army camp on the Atlantic Coast where they will remain under appropriate security restrictions.

The Army will take the necessary security precautions and the camp will be administered by the War Relocation Authority. The War Refugee Board is charged with over-all responsibility for this project.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE,
June 12, 1944.

General

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN THE CONDUCT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Address by Assistant Secretary Shaw¹

[Released to the press June 14]

At the outset I am going to make an assumption which I know is a safe one, namely that you are not concerned with the conception, which happily is ever more narrowly held, that women as such constitute something in the nature of a national minority for which representation should be secured on all Governmental projects. It may once have been tactically expedient to promote that somewhat restricted view in the process of obtaining general recognition of the simple fact that the women of this country are likewise members of the body politic. But that fact is certainly now beyond dispute.

Today we in the Government who are engaged in the selection of individuals for the performance of the multitude of tasks which confront us both here and abroad are concerned only with the competence of the potential Government servant or representative. Nevertheless to those of you who recall that June day 25 years ago when what became the 19th amendment to the Constitution of the United States received the approval of the Congress, there must indeed be a source of satisfaction in the knowledge that today the women of the nation are playing an active, a vital, and an indispensable role in every line of American endeavor from assembly line to the President's Cabinet. And those women are there, not because they are women but because they have what it takes.

This afternoon I would like to speak briefly about the role of women in the conduct of our international relations, which as you know is the province of the State Department. In so doing I risk being charged with trying to divide into meaningless categories the people who serve their country in the international field. It might perhaps fairly be said that it would be almost as meaningful for me to devote a discussion to the work in this field of all persons who bear the name of Smith. Yet because of the history of the emancipation of women, perhaps such a segregation is not totally lacking in significance to this gathering.

As you know, our foreign relations are conducted through the complementary channels of a home office—the Department of State—and a field staff—the Foreign Service of the United States. I am going to speak first about the home office—the Department of State.

Of the persons engaged in *administrative* and *professional* work in the Department, more than 300, or over one third, are women. This figure does not, of course, include the many highly valued women who are employed in the essentially important field of secretarial and stenographic work. In the administrative and professional classifications, to which I just referred, women are receiving base salaries of from \$2000 to \$8000 per year. While war conditions are in part responsible for the increased ratio of participation by women in Government affairs, those war conditions are *not* responsible for the professional and technical competency which is being outstandingly demonstrated by the women who have recently joined the State Department. I think some of you who have participated in the past in Government activities can take at least partial credit for the high quality of the work now being performed by women in the various activities of the Department. For, with the example before them of your own successful contributions to the operations of the Government, young women in their college days have in recent years prepared themselves with more assurance that suitable outlets for their talents will be found.

I think these women who are working with us are happy in the knowledge that they are more than carrying their share of the burden and that they are regarded by their fellow workers not as stopgap or makeshift employees—necessary evils “for the duration”—but as full-fledged and expert technicians capable of doing the best possible job. It was interesting to me to hear the comments of a competent research worker—a woman

¹ Delivered at the Conference On How Women May Share in Post-War Policy-Making, Washington, June 14.

known to many of you here—who recently joined the staff of the Department. Said she, “I have been impressed by the attitude *or rather lack of attitude* toward women in the Department.” I thought that that was a very apt way of saying that the presence of women as officers of the Department has now become commonplace.

So far as concerns the Foreign Service of the United States—I am speaking now of the regular Foreign Service or the “career service” as it is sometimes called—I will state quite frankly that the situation at least in the past has been different. These people serve abroad in many lands and under extremely varied circumstances. It is no reflection on our friendly neighbors in other parts of the world, but rather a manifestation of pride in our own standards, to say that the position which women hold in the United States is not always understood by the peoples of some of the other countries of this world. Moreover, the living conditions—not merely the physical surroundings but the sociological settings—differ in many foreign posts to a very large degree from those found in our own country. I personally believe that time will bring a change in this situation and that in the future there will be more opportunity for women in our Foreign Service. However, in spite of these factors and in spite of the fact that Foreign Service officers must be selected on the basis of their being able to serve anywhere in the world at any time, there are now included in our regular Foreign Service seven women as Foreign Service officers. Five others have at one time or another been members of the regular Service but have either resigned or retired. In addition, as you know, two women have served as Chiefs of Missions: Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen Rohde as Minister to Denmark and Mrs. Florence Jaffray Harriman as Minister to Norway.

During the war the regular Foreign Service has been supplemented by an Auxiliary Foreign Service made up of people sent abroad to serve in special capacities connected with this emergency period. Twelve women are officers in this auxiliary service. It may be expected that the complexity which characterizes our present-day foreign relations will, even at the conclusion of the present emergency, require us more and more to attach to our embassies and legations abroad spe-

cialists on temporary assignments in fields in which women have shown themselves outstandingly qualified, such as labor relations, welfare work, cultural relations, economic relations, and so on.

So much for the Department of State and the Foreign Service of the United States. There is, of course, another area of international activity in which women have taken and will continue to take an active part, namely those international conversations, conferences, and commissions in which this Government participates through American delegations. The speakers this morning dwelt at some length upon the role which women have played in these special assignments. By way of summary, the following constitute a list of recent international gatherings at which women have been members of the American delegations:

- The United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture at Hot Springs, Virginia, in May and June 1943
- The first Council Meeting of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration at Atlantic City in November 1943
- The Meeting of the International Labor Organization at Philadelphia in April 1944
- The Conference of Allied Ministers of Education at London in April and May 1944

As the war approaches the final decision we can, of course, expect that numerous other occasions will arise for consultations between representatives of the United Nations on international problems of mutual concern. Many of these problems will be of a highly technical character. It is inevitable that those selected to represent this Government in such consultations or deliberations will, as in the past, continue to be chosen on the basis of their technical qualifications. The record of participation by women in the conferences and meetings which I have just listed clearly demonstrates, if there ever was a doubt, that the desired technical qualifications are to be found among women as well as men. From this it may be concluded that women will continue to find themselves taking part in future meetings of this character. And, of course, the same must be true of those international consultations and conferences which will follow the termination of hostilities.

In the selection of those persons who will make

up the American representation in these *ad hoc* international consultations, it is obviously desirable that full information be available as to potential selectees, particularly with respect to their professional or technical qualifications. This information is not always at hand in the files of the State Department or of other Government departments. In this connection I may say that we in the State Department are aware of the fact that groups of private citizens are capable of rendering valued assistance by assembling data as to technically

qualified persons—and I emphasize the element of qualification—who might constitute something in the nature of an informal panel from which appropriate selections can be made at opportune times.

In summary, whether it be to serve in the State Department, in our Foreign Service, or on special commissions, we are looking for the best in the land. I can assure you that those who possess preeminently the requisite qualifications will be chosen, whether they be men or women.

Iceland

INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ICELAND

Messages of President Roosevelt to the President of Iceland and of the Secretary of State to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

[Released to the press June 17]

The following messages were sent by President Roosevelt to His Excellency Sveinn Bjornsson, President of the Republic of Iceland, and by Secretary of State Cordell Hull to His Excellency Vilhjalmur Thor, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland:

Please accept my heartiest congratulations on your election to the high office of President of the

Republic of Iceland and my best wishes and those of the people of the United States for the continued prosperity of the Icelandic nation.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

On this historic occasion in Icelandic history please accept my sincere felicitations on the establishment of the Republic of Iceland.

CORDELL HULL

Address by the Honorable Louis G. Dreyfus, Jr.¹

[Released to the press June 17]

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I consider it both a great pleasure and a signal honor to address you, Mr. President, as the Special Representative of the President of the United States on this unique and world-important occasion—the inauguration of the first President of the Republic of Iceland, to whom I am happy to bring the very cordial personal greetings and the congratulations of President Roosevelt. I also have the honor to welcome the Republic of Iceland as the newest republic in the family of free nations. The pleasure which I feel is derived from the warmth of friendship existing here, and the honor I sense results from the high standards and ideals of patriotism, democracy, and goodwill for which the Icelandic nation stands.

It is indeed at a great moment that I bring you this message. In that strange mutation of events shaping the heroic history of Iceland it is again a terrible world war that has given impetus to the intense desire of the people of Iceland for independence. The countries from which most of your ancestors came and with which you have been so closely associated in the past are at present under the heel of the oppressor, who confesses and openly preaches the unchristian doctrines which you, in common with the other peoples in the North, have combated these 900

¹ Delivered at the inauguration of the President of Iceland on June 17, 1944. Mr. Dreyfus is Special Representative of the President with the personal rank of Ambassador.

years. But it is not the physical severance of the cultural and political ties with the peoples of Denmark and Norway which has prompted you to reaffirm, once and for all, your national independence. It is rather the culmination of a centuries-old desire for complete sovereignty. Your country was established by an adventurous people who moved westward to seek a maximum freedom and independence. Today their goals have finally been achieved. It is not strange that hundreds of years later the movement of other peoples cherishing the same desires also was toward the West.

More than a thousand years ago a government was established at Thingvellir, this very spot where we meet today, which provided for a parliament with legislative and judicial functions. The Althing, the world's oldest parliament, is universally recognized as Iceland's greatest contribution to the development of representative political institutions. The flame kindled here has spread to all lands where free men assemble. Mankind will never forget this debt it owes to Iceland.

Here the history of Iceland unfolds itself. In my mind's eye I see heroic figures marching across the scene of passing centuries from Njal of Bjergthorshval, Thorvald Kodransson the Far Traveler, who espoused Christianity and preached it at the Althing in 984, to Jon Sigurdsson, to whom we have this morning paid worthy tribute. Jon Sigurdsson saw clearly how the desire for national independence ran like a golden thread through Iceland's history. When the Danish Government proposed to apply Denmark's constitution of June 5, 1849 to Iceland, thereby including it as an integral part of the kingdom, he voiced the protest of his countrymen in asserting that Iceland would not accept provincial autonomy but demanded a constitution of its own as a sovereign state in a confederate union with Denmark. He lived to see the constitution of 1874 which, despite its defects, represented a step in the direction of the aspirations of the Icelandic people and which led to the emergence of Iceland as a sovereign state with its own flag in 1918.

Today the United States and Iceland are associated to preserve that freedom so dear to both of

us which insures to every man the inalienable rights with which we were endowed by God. In this instance, the cooperation is the direct result of the responsibility assumed on July 7, 1941 by the Government of the United States at the request of the Icelandic Government. To my mind this step of paramount significance may be considered to be the cornerstone of a close relationship between our two free independent nations. It has brought our countries together and has enabled citizens of the United States—who are essentially democratic and believers in individual liberty, effective electoral suffrage, and administrative honesty—to work side by side in a cordial collaboration with their Icelandic brothers, who cherish the same ideals and beliefs.

It is my earnest hope that after the termination of the war there will be a further development of the cultural and commercial relations now existing between our two countries. This will be one of my principal interests, as I am fully persuaded that an intimate association of this nature will redound to the benefit of both our nations and will further the establishment and maintenance of a just and lasting peace throughout the world. Those sons of Iceland who migrated to the United States have contributed no little to its development and, in turn, because of a similarity of ideals and customs, fitted themselves with a minimum of effort into the cultural system of their adopted country. The ties of friendship established by Americans in Iceland and the number of Icelandic students who have gone to my country in pursuit of learning will contribute further to strengthen the cordial relationships which have always existed between our peoples and which, I am convinced, will continue to exist in the future.

You, Mr. President, and you, the people of Iceland, stand on the threshold of a new era that will bring you new problems. May there be granted to you the same determination, the same courage, and the same virtues as were shown by the first Scandinavians who made landfall on your shores, who sailed a turbulent sea in open boats without compass, and who depended on the stars in heaven and their own stout hearts to reach their goal. With the same courage and devotion as they displayed, you will be facing a high destiny.

THE ICELANDIC INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

By William C. Trimble¹

The Icelandic independence movement is considered to have started in the nineteenth century. It was partially recognized by Denmark in the revival of the Althing² in 1843 and in the grant of substantial home rule in 1903. The Danish law of November 30, 1918, effective December 1, 1918, providing for the union of Denmark and Iceland, was itself a further concession by Denmark to the growing demands for national independence. The pertinent sections of this agreement, which is usually referred to as the "Act of Union", are quoted below:³

Part I, article 1

"Denmark and Iceland shall be free and Sovereign States united under a common King, and by the agreement contained in this Law of Union; the names of both States shall be indicated in the King's title."

Part III, article 7

"Denmark shall attend on Iceland's behalf to its foreign affairs . . ."

Part III, article 8

"Denmark will, until such time as Iceland may decide to take over at its own expense either wholly or in part the inspection of fishing in Icelandic waters, undertake to carry out such under the Danish flag."

Part VI, article 18

"On the expiration of the year 1940, both the Rigsdag and the Althing may at any time demand the commencement of negotiations for a revision of the Law.

"If on the expiration of three years after the handing in of a petition for the commencement of negotiations, these do not lead to a renewed agreement, both the Danish Rigsdag and the Icelandic Althing may resolve that the agreements contained in this Law shall be annulled.

¹ The author of this article is an officer in the Division of Northern European Affairs, Department of State.

² Icelandic Parliament.

³ Translation as in *British and Foreign State Papers, 1917-1918*, vol. CXI (London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1921).

"In order that this decision shall be binding, at least two-thirds of the members of each House of the Rigsdag and of the United Assembly [Althing] must have voted in its favor, and it must subsequently be confirmed by voting on the part of electors, who possess the franchise at the usual general elections.

"If it is shown by such voting that at least three-fourths of the electors participated at the election, and that at least three-fourths of the voters are for abolition of the Law, the agreement shall cease to exist."

Part VII, article 20

"This Law of Union comes into force on the 1st December, 1918. To which all must conform.

"Given at Amalienborg, November 30, 1918 under the Royal Hand and Seal.

(LS) CHRISTIAN R"

At the time of its passage, the Act of Union was apparently considered by many Icelanders to be merely a temporary arrangement pending the achievement of complete independence, and this opinion has continued to be held, being reiterated in an Althing resolution of April 15, 1937, which stated, in translation, that:⁴

"The Althing resolves to instruct the Government to prepare immediately, in cooperation with the Foreign Affairs Committee, the procedure for handling foreign affairs, at home and abroad, which will prove most suitable when the Icelanders take advantage of the abrogation clause of the Act of Union, and take the whole handling of their own affairs into their own hands . . ."

The occupation of Denmark by Germany on April 9, 1940 prevented the King from executing his constitutional powers,⁵ and made it impossible for Denmark to handle Iceland's foreign relations and to protect its fisheries. Accordingly, on April

⁴ Text of resolution transmitted to the American Legation at Reykjavik by the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

⁵ Constitution of the Kingdom of Iceland dated May 18, 1920.

10, 1940, the Icelandic Cabinet introduced into the Icelandic Althing the following two resolutions, both of which were passed by unanimous vote:¹

"1. Having regard to the fact that the situation which has been created makes it impossible for His Majesty the King of Iceland to execute the Royal Power given to him under the Constitutional Act, the Icelandic Parliament declares that the Cabinet of Iceland is, for the time being, intrusted with the conduct of the said power.

"2. Having regard to the situation now created, Denmark is not in a position to execute the authority to take charge of the Foreign Affairs of Iceland, granted to it under the provisions of Article 7 of the Danish Icelandic Act of Union, nor can it carry out the fishery inspection within Icelandic territorial waters in accordance with Article 8 of the same Act. Therefore, the Icelandic Althing declares that Iceland will, for the time being, take entire charge of the said affairs."

A press release summarizing the above resolutions was issued by the Danish Legation in Washington on April 10, 1940.

Iceland's ability to "take charge of" its foreign affairs has been recognized by the United States and other governments, as is indicated by the accrediting of Ministers thereto and the negotiation of agreements such as the Defense of Iceland Agreement of July 1, 1941² and the Reciprocal Trade Agreement of August 27, 1943.³ Furthermore, Iceland already possessed some experience in handling foreign affairs, an Icelandic Legation having been maintained at Copenhagen for a number of years and, more recently, Icelandic attachés having been attached to Danish legations in certain foreign countries.

On May 17, 1941 both Houses of the Althing made the following announcement with respect to Iceland's independence:⁴

"As a result of the German occupation of Den-

¹ *Utanrikismálataduneytið*, Reykjavík. Translation prepared by the American Consulate at Reykjavík.

² Executive Agreement Series 232.

³ Executive Agreement Series 342.

mark the Icelandic Parliament on April 10, 1940 passed two resolutions concerning: first, the execution of the Supreme Power; and, second, the conduct of foreign affairs, as well as the execution of fishery inspection within the territorial waters of Iceland.

"In these resolutions it was stated that, in view of the situation which had been created, it was impossible for His Majesty the King of Iceland to execute the Royal Power given to him under the Constitutional Act, and that therefore the Icelandic Parliament had entrusted the Icelandic cabinet, for the time being with the conduct of the said power.

"As a consequence of the second resolution, which affirmed that Denmark was not in a position to execute the authority to take charge of the foreign affairs of Iceland, nor to carry out the fishery inspection within the territorial waters of Iceland in conformity with the provisions of the Act of Union of 1918, the Althing declared that Iceland, for the time being, would take complete charge of the said affairs.

"Since more than a year has elapsed with the situation unchanged as concerns the incapacity of His Majesty the King to execute the Royal Power, and of Denmark to perform the functions entrusted to it by Iceland, the situation required that a more precise attitude should be taken in respect of relations with Denmark, so that, on the 17th of this month, the Althing passed unanimous resolutions on the subject of the Act of Union with Denmark as well as the constitutional aims of the Althing as the representatives of the Icelandic people. These resolutions were as follows:

"1. The Althing resolves to declare that Iceland has acquired the right to abolish entirely the Act of Union with Denmark, since Iceland has had to take into its own hands the conduct of all of its affairs, and since Denmark is not in a position to attend to the matters on behalf of

⁴ Translation prepared by the American Consulate at Reykjavík.

Iceland which were agreed to under the Danish-Icelandic Act of Union of 1918. On the part of Iceland there shall be no question of renewing the Act of Union with Denmark, although it is not thought expedient in the present circumstances to effect the formal abolition of the union, nor to establish the final constitution of the state, but these will not be postponed beyond the end of the war.

"2. The Althing has resolved to appoint a regent, for a period of one year,¹ to wield Supreme Power in matters of state which were placed in the hands of the cabinet on April 10, 1940.

"3. The Althing decides to announce its will that a republic be established in Iceland as soon as the union with Denmark has been formally dissolved."

The first and third resolutions were passed by unanimous vote and the second by a vote of 38 to 3. Accordingly, they may be considered to have represented the practical unanimity of feeling of Icelanders on the subject of relations with Denmark.

Immediately following the passage of the resolutions, the Icelandic Government instructed its Chargé d'Affaires at Copenhagen to bring them to the notice of the King and the Danish Government. This was done in a formal note dated May 20, 1941. In this connection it will be recalled that in accordance with the provisions of part VI, article 18, of the Act of Union Iceland now possessed the right to demand a revision of this agreement. In reply the Danish Prime Minister on May 31, 1941 wrote the following note to the Icelandic Chargé d'Affaires:²

SIR:

I hereby have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the message which you submitted to me on May 20, 1941, in accordance with the instructions of your Government, relative to two resolutions adopted by the Icelandic Althing concerning the dissolution of the Personal Union existing between

Denmark and Iceland and to request you kindly to communicate the following facts to the Government of Iceland:

The Danish Government fully appreciates the difficulties called for by the existing circumstances which may have led to the adoption of these Resolutions, but finds it regrettable that the Althing has found itself called upon to indicate at this moment its views with respect to the interstate relations existing between the two countries.

The Danish Government, which has observed with satisfaction the statement to the effect that Iceland does not regard it as opportune at present to take steps to dissolve the Union, has taken cognizance of this fact and regards it as an indication that the Icelandic Government intends at the conclusion of this war to institute negotiations to this end. In this connection the Danish Government declares that as soon as conditions permit, it will be prepared on its part to enter into negotiations upon the basis of the provisions of the Treaty of Union, and to give due consideration to the wishes of the Icelandic people.

TH. STAUNING

A further step toward independence was taken on September 7, 1942, when the following addition to the 75th article of the Constitution of May 18, 1920 was passed by the Althing:³

"1. When the Parliament shall adopt the change in the Icelandic constitutional organization which is outlined in its resolution of May 17, 1941, this amendment as passed by the Parliament shall have the effect as fundamental law when the majority of all eligible voters in the country shall have approved it by secret popular vote.

"2. This law is effective at once."

A committee of the Althing was appointed on May 22, 1942 to draft the aforementioned new constitution of Iceland. Its draft was submitted to the Althing in the form of a bill in April 1943. The proposed constitution differed from that of May 18, 1920 only in that it provided for the estab-

¹ Term of office subsequently extended.

² Translation of item in Copenhagen *Politiken*, June 6, 1941.

³ Translation of item in Reykjavik *Althyðubladid*, Sept. 8, 1942.

lishment of a republic instead of a kingdom, for the election of a President to replace the King, and for the changes necessary as a consequence of the severance of the union with Denmark.

Since the three-year period following the delivery of the notice of intention by Iceland to terminate the Act of Union would not expire before May 20, 1944, the third anniversary of the date on which the Icelandic Chargé d'Affaires at Copenhagen delivered his note on this subject to the Danish Government, the Icelandic Government decided that immediate action on the proposed constitution and the final abrogation of the Act of Union was not necessary. The delay in acting on the proposed constitution did not mean that sentiment respecting the independence of Iceland had undergone any change. This is indicated in the following excerpts from a statement made by the Prime Minister of Iceland before a joint session of the Althing on November 1, 1943:¹

"It is to be expected that final decisions about the establishment of a Republic in Iceland and about the constitution of the Supreme Power of the country will soon be taken in the Althing."

"The present government will, therefore, carry out the decisions of the Althing about the establishment of a Republic in Iceland, whenever such decisions may be made and to the best of their ability when called upon to do so."

Further indication of the views of the Icelandic people with respect to the severance of the ties with Denmark was given in an announcement made on November 30, 1943 by spokesmen of the Conservative, Progressive, and Communist Parties, which control 45 of the 52 votes in the Althing, to the effect that the three parties had united in demanding a breach of ties with Denmark "early in 1944" and the establishment of a republic before June 17, 1944.²

In accordance with constitutional procedure, the proposed constitution was reintroduced on January 12, 1944 to the session of the Althing which had opened on January 10, 1944. Together

with it there was presented a brief resolution providing for the abrogation of the 1918 Act of Union with Denmark and the retention by Danish subjects resident in Iceland of equal rights with Icelanders.

The Constitution Bill was passed by unanimous vote of the Althing on March 8, 1944, in substantially the same form as introduced, the principal modification being that the first President of the republic should be elected by the Althing for a term which would expire on July 31, 1945 and that each subsequent President should be elected by direct vote of the people for a four-year term.

The proposed resolution on the abrogation of the Act of Union was referred to the Joint Committee of the Althing on the Constitution and Abrogation which, after making certain changes, reported it out in the following form:³

"The Althing resolves to proclaim that the Act of Union between Iceland and Denmark is abrogated.

"This resolution shall be placed before the electorate of the country for acceptance or rejection by secret ballot. If the resolution is approved, it shall become effective when it has again been passed by the Althing following the plebiscite."

The resolution was passed in this form by unanimous vote of the Althing on February 25, 1944.

As may be noted, that section of the draft resolution of January 10, 1944 regarding the retention by Danish subjects residing in Iceland of equal rights with Icelanders was omitted from the text of the measure as passed by the Althing. Instead, a bill was introduced which became law on March 2, 1944, providing that such rights should be enjoyed by Danish residents until six months after the initiation of negotiations on this subject between Iceland and Denmark.

In accordance with the terms of article 18 of the Act of Union, a plebiscite was held on May 20-23, 1944 to vote on the resolution of February 25 on the abrogation of the Act of Union and the Constitution Bill of March 8. Slightly less than 98 percent of all registered voters took part. Ninety-seven percent of the votes cast were in favor of terminating the union with Denmark, while 95 percent approved the Constitution providing for

¹ Statement in translation prepared by the Icelandic Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitted to the American Legation at Reykjavik.

² Summary of statement transmitted to the Department of State by the American Legation at Reykjavik.

³ Translation prepared by the American Legation at Reykjavik.

the establishment of a republic. The Althing ratified the action of the people on these two proposals by unanimous vote on June 16, 1944.

The Republic of Iceland formally came into being on June 17, 1944, the 133d anniversary of the birth of Jon Sigurdsson, the Icelandic national hero. On the same day the first President of the Republic was elected by the Althing. President Roosevelt designated the American Minister to Iceland as his Special Representative with the personal rank of Ambassador for the inaugural ceremonies. Moreover, the Congress, in a concurrent resolution passed by unanimous vote of the House of Representatives on June 10, 1944 and by the Senate on June 15, 1944, conveyed its congratulations to the Althing on the establishment of the Republic in the following terms:

"WHEREAS the people of Iceland in a free plebiscite on May 20 to 23, 1944, overwhelmingly approved the constitutional bill passed by the Althing providing for the establishment of a republican form of government; and

"WHEREAS the Republic of Iceland will be formally established on June 17, 1944: Now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED: That the Congress hereby expresses to the Icelandic Althing, the oldest parliamentary body in the world, its congratulations on the establishment of the Republic of Iceland and its welcome to the Republic of Iceland as the newest republic in the family of free nations."

A message sent by the King of Denmark on the occasion of the June 17 ceremonies is referred to in the following press release issued by the Icelandic Foreign Office on that day: "At 17:15 o'clock, the Prime Minister went unexpectedly to the Speaker's table and said he has been informed that the Icelandic Government had received a message from King Christian X of Denmark expressing his best wishes for the Icelandic people and hoping the ties of friendship which exist between Iceland and other Scandinavian countries might grow still stronger. The people received this news with great applause."¹

Although the ties with the Danish Crown have been severed and the form of the Government of Iceland changed, these acts do not imply that only

now has Iceland become a sovereign state. It has, in fact, enjoyed this status since December 1, 1918.² Evidence of recognition of this fact by the United States is found in the Treaty of Arbitration with Iceland signed May 15, 1930.³ Further evidence is found in paragraph 2 of the Defense of Iceland Agreement which provides:⁴

"United States further promise to recognize the absolute independence and sovereignty of Iceland and to exercise their best efforts with those powers which will negotiate the peace treaty at the conclusion of the present war in order that such treaty shall likewise recognize the absolute independence and sovereignty of Iceland."

PRESENTATION OF LETTERS OF CREDENCE BY THE UNITED STATES MINISTER TO ICELAND

[Released to the press June 15]

The remarks of the newly appointed Minister of the United States to Iceland, the Honorable Louis G. Dreyfus, Jr., on the occasion of the presentation of his letters of credence to the Regent of Iceland on June 14, 1944, follow:

EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to place in Your Excellency's hands the letters of recall of my predecessor, Mr. Leland Morris, and the letters which accredit me to you as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

It is a great distinction for me to have been designated by the President of the United States to fulfil this high mission on the eve of the establishment of the Republic of Iceland, an event which opens a new chapter in the history of Iceland.

Stimulated by the joint interests and the common benefits which it has created, a historic process of mutual *rapprochement* was initiated by the agreement effected July 1, 1941 between Iceland and the United States. This has served to place the relations between our countries on a footing of the greatest cordiality and confidence, drawing closer and closer the bonds of cooperation and friendship between them. The deep interest in this pact shown by the President of the United States serves

² See pt. I, art. 1, of the Act of Union, *supra*.

³ Treaty Series 828; *Treaties, Conventions, International Acts, Protocols, and Agreements Between the United States of America and Other Powers, 1923-37*, vol. IV, p. 4074.

⁴ Executive Agreement Series 232.

¹ Translation prepared by the American Legation at Reykjavik.

as a great incentive for me to devote myself to the best of my ability to the task of contributing to the further development of the friendly and intimate relations which so happily exist between our countries. I hope that I may in my endeavor count upon the assistance and the cooperation of Your Excellency and the Icelandic Government.

President Roosevelt, with whom I conferred before my departure from the United States, charged me particularly to convey to Your Excellency his best wishes and those of the American people for the prosperity of Iceland and for your personal happiness, to which wishes I desire to add my own.

The reply of the Regent of Iceland follows:

MR. MINISTER: It is with great pleasure that I accept from your hands the letters by which His Excellency the President of the United States of America has accredited you as Envoy Extraordinary Plenipotentiary near the Government of Iceland. I am happy to receive you in that capacity. You may be assured of my willingness and that of the officials of the Government to cooperate with you in the execution of your important mission. In accepting at the same time the letters of recall of your predecessor, I want to express how much I, myself, and the Government appreciated his devoted work for strengthening the good understanding and the friendly relations between the Governments and peoples of our two countries. Mr. Morris has left many good friends in Iceland, and I am glad to tell you that I am one of them. It gives me an especially great pleasure that you have also arrived here as a special representative with rank of Ambassador of His Excellency the President of the United States of America for the purpose of representing him at the inauguration of the reestablishment of the Republic in Iceland. This extraordinary token of friendship which His Excellency the President has thus shown our country at this important event in our history has touched the heart of every Icelander and at the same time been invaluable to Iceland. Since July 7, 1941 the friendly intercourse and cordial relations between Icelanders and Americans have grown to a great extent. It is a special favor to me to be able to express to you the pleasure of our people with this expansion of mutual knowledge. We have learned

to appreciate the great American nation's understanding for our nation. This understanding has been expressed both by the authorities of the United States of America and their representatives in this country and by the United States armed forces which have been in this country according to an agreement for almost three years. I think I am not saying too much when I call this a great example, a fact which may be traced to the sincere American love for freedom which we Icelanders are proud to share with our great Western friends. I am deeply grateful for the special greetings you brought me from the President of the United States and the wishes expressed therein towards Iceland and myself. I beg you to express to His Excellency the President my heart-felt appreciation of his greetings and of all the various friendship he has shown the people of Iceland and myself both now and earlier. I should be most grateful if you would convey to His Excellency the President my cordial wishes for his health and happiness and for the good fortune and well-being of the people of the United States of America.

Far East

VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF AMOY UNIVERSITY TO THE UNITED STATES

[Released to the press June 13]

President P. T. (Pen-tung) Sah has been appointed by the National University of Amoy as its representative in the United States for a year's visit at the invitation of the Department of State, according to information just received from China. President Sah is not only the administrative head of one of China's leading universities but is also a distinguished professor of physics, with a long record of teaching. Like the five other Chinese educators coming to this country under the same program, whose names were announced by the Department on June 7,¹ President Sah will visit American colleges and universities and will be glad to lecture or take part in conferences.

¹ BULLETIN of June 10, 1944, p. 537.

Europe

MINISTER OF FINLAND REQUESTED TO LEAVE THE UNITED STATES

[Released to the press June 16]

The Minister of Finland, Mr. Hjalmar J. Procopé, and three counselors of the Finnish Legation, Mr. T. O. Vahervuori, Mr. Urho Toivola, and Mr. Risto Solanko, were handed their passports on June 16 and requested to leave the country at the earliest moment because of activities on their part inimical to the interests of the United States.

This action does not constitute a rupture of diplomatic relations between the United States and Finland.

VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES OF THE POLISH PRIME MINISTER

[Released to the press June 17]

Just before the departure of the Polish Prime Minister the President of the United States addressed the following letter to him:

MY DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

I wish to take this opportunity, just before your departure, to wish you a safe return after your most welcome visit to Washington.

I particularly desire to express to you the pleasure I had in seeing you again, which enabled me to have most frank, sincere, and friendly exchanges of views with you on the many questions which are of mutual interest to us.

I need hardly tell you how much the American people admire the courage and fortitude of the Polish people, who for almost five years have borne with brave and stout hearts the cruel hardships of war and oppression. Their steadfast determination to be free again and the indomitable spirit of their fighting men constitute the best pledge that Poland shall reassume her rightful place among the free nations of the world.

The forces of liberation are on the march to certain victory and the establishment of a peace based upon the principles of freedom, democracy, mutual understanding, and security for all liberty-loving people.

Permit me to express again how much I appreciated the opportunity of renewing our acquaintance. I feel that such personal exchanges of views cannot but contribute to mutual understanding.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

The Prime Minister of Poland, prior to his departure, sent the following letter to the President:

MR. PRESIDENT,

I am deeply touched and most sincerely grateful for the great kindness and hospitality which I have received from you during my visit. May I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the proofs of your kindness and for giving me so many opportunities of seeing you and of having frank talks with you on the vital subjects and problems which affect Poland and Europe now and after this war.

I should like to thank you not only for your most friendly and kind reception but especially for your deep and so broad approach to the problems of the future.

The ideals and principles of the Atlantic Charter and of the Four Freedoms of which you are the initiator are for us Poles in our hard fight for the speedy liberation of our country that encouragement and inspiration which we most need on our way of struggle, suffering and work.

The loss of individual freedom and of all that man possessed has strengthened in the Polish people their love, respect and yearning for that Freedom. The fate of the people shared by all social classes irrespective of their origin and religion has brought man closer to man in my country so strongly that it has cemented the foundations of Democracy and created the conditions necessary to mutual understanding and collaboration. This love of freedom increases the striving to make it secure when, after the final Victory, it will be necessary to build new foundations for nations and peace-loving peoples.

I leave greatly impressed by the conversations which I was privileged to have with you, by your views and your wide knowledge of human and national problems.

I would be very happy if the few modest suggestions which you gave me the opportunity of

contributing in our talks could even in the slightest way serve the common cause and be of some use to you, Mr. President, who are leading your nation in this great fight for the common cause together with your Allies, giving so much of yourself and carrying so great a responsibility as regards the fulfillment of the ideals with which you have inspired the hearts of the soldiers and fighters for freedom.

S. MIKOLAJCZYK

American Republics

PROPOSAL FOR RESCUE OF REFUGEES FROM GERMAN TERRITORY

[Released to the press June 17]

The Secretary of State sent the following telegram on June 17 to Dr. Alberto Guani, Chairman of the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense in Montevideo, with respect to the endeavors being made to rescue refugees from German territory:

I have the honor to acknowledge Your Excellency's communication of May 31, transmitting to me a copy of the resolution adopted by the Committee on that date.

I note that this resolution proposes that the American Republics concert and intensify their efforts to rescue from German hands some thousands of oppressed minorities holding non-European documentation; that this be done by joint proposals to exchange German nationals from the American Republics for these persecuted groups; and that such exchanges can be achieved consistently with security considerations surrounding exchanges previously formulated by your Committee in the interests of hemispheric defense.

My Government will be most happy to participate actively in such an inter-American program. In company with some of its sister republics and other governments it has been giving intensive consideration to this problem. The direction and stimulus the Committee's resolution

provides for the development of a joint program of larger proportions is most welcome, and is in line with those great humanitarian concepts for which the American Republics stand.

I extend to you and your distinguished colleagues the assurances of my highest consideration.

CORDELL HULL

PRESENTATION OF LETTERS OF CREDENCE BY THE AMBASSADOR OF COSTA RICA

[Released to the press June 15]

A translation of the remarks of the newly appointed Ambassador of Costa Rica, Señor Don Francisco de Paula Gutiérrez upon the occasion of the presentation of his letters of credence, June 15, 1944, follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: The President of Costa Rica has been good enough to honor me with the representation of my country before your Government, and in accepting so arduous a task I have counted upon Your Excellency's benevolent friendship in order to be able to carry it out—a friendship which Your Excellency has ever manifested by lending us your efficacious help and valued cooperation for the purpose of settling the various problems which the difficult and abnormal world situation necessarily brings in its train.

I consider it one of the privileges of my life that I am permitted to represent my small country before the great and powerful brother of the north, in the most important epoch of history, when the destinies of humanity are being forged, in great part, by the orientation given them by the illustrious statesman who—to the good fortune of all—governs the United States of America.

The traditional friendship of our two countries and of their Governments, which has known no eclipse through their independent life, has been even more strengthened now that the two Nations battle together to preserve to man the right to live in accordance with the rules of justice, under theegis of law, and within the framework of democratic institutions.

Our contribution, Mr. President, is indeed modest, just as our resources are modest and our

population is small, but we have offered all we have and we give it with an inflexible determination to serve until the final victory be won. While I occupy the high position which has been entrusted to me I shall have no other aspiration than to follow that line of conduct, which is the one which Costa Rica has set for herself as one of the United Nations. When peace comes we shall maintain that same spirit of cooperation and solidarity in order to carry out to the end the plans the study of which has already begun and which have for their purpose the consolidation of the victory and the rendering impossible, in so far as that can be done, the scourge of a new world war.

I have the honor to present to Your Excellency the letters of recall of my distinguished predecessor, Señor Don Carlos Manuel Escalante, together with the credentials which accredit me as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary before Your Excellency's enlightened Government.

In the name of the President of Costa Rica, of the Government and the people of Costa Rica, and in my own name, I express my very sincere good wishes for the prosperity and increasing greatness of the United States and for the happiness of the illustrious statesman who today directs its destinies.

The President's reply to the remarks of Señor Don Francisco de Paula Gutiérrez follows:

MR. AMBASSADOR: It is with great pleasure that I receive the letters accrediting Your Excellency as Ambassador of Costa Rica to the United States. You are welcome not only as the representative of an Ally in this great struggle—not alone for the distinguished career which you already have achieved—but also as one who has always striven to promote friendship between our respective countries. I am happy to assure you that you can count on the closest collaboration from the officials of this Government in carrying out the responsibilities of your office.

The United States well remembers when, immediately it had been stricken by the treacherous blow of an aggressor, Costa Rica was in the forefront of those nations which gallantly ranged

themselves on our side. Today the aggressor nations are reeling beneath our counterstrokes; although costly sacrifices must yet be made, we know the victory will be ours. Costa Rica has shown itself great in that which makes a nation great—a willingness to fight for fundamental principles. For this reason Costa Rica is one of the United Nations in this great battle for human dignity and freedom.

I shall be grateful if you will convey to President Picado, whose recent visit we remember so pleasantly, my cordial good wishes for his personal well-being and for the progress and prosperity of the Costa Rican people.

Treaty Information

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

El Salvador

The Director General of the Pan American Union informed the Secretary of State by a letter of June 7, 1944 that the instrument of ratification by the Government of El Salvador of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, which was opened for signature at the Pan American Union on January 15, 1944, was deposited with the Pan American Union on May 31, 1944. The instrument of ratification is dated May 16, 1944.

REGULATION OF INTER-AMERICAN AUTOMOTIVE TRAFFIC

Brazil

The American Embassy at Rio de Janeiro transmitted to the Department, with a despatch of May 20, 1944, a copy of Decree Law 6481 of May 9, 1944 approving the Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic, which was deposited with the Pan American Union and opened for signature on December 15, 1943. The Decree Law is printed in the Brazilian *Diario Oficial* of May 11, 1944.

PROVISIONAL FUR-SEAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

The Canadian Ambassador at Washington transmitted to the Secretary of State, with a note of June 12, 1944, copies of Order-in-Council P.C. 4112 of May 30, 1944 issued under authority of the Canadian War Measures Act applying and giving force of law, in so far as Canada is concerned, to the provisions of the Provisional Fur-Seal Agreement between the United States of America and Canada which was effected by exchange of notes signed in Washington on December 8 and 19, 1942. The Agreement entered into force on May 30, 1944, the date of issuance of the Canadian Order-in-Council, and is effective as from June 1, 1942, under the provisions of article X of the Agreement.

PROTOCOL ON PELAGIC WHALING

On June 16, 1944 the Senate gave its advice and consent to ratification of a protocol relating to pelagic whaling operations which was signed at London on February 7, 1944 by the accredited representatives of the Governments of the United States of America, the Union of South Africa, the Commonwealth of Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, New Zealand, and Norway.

The Department

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

By Departmental Designation 20, issued June 10, 1944, effective June 5, 1944, the Secretary of State designated Mr. Carl B. Spaeth as Chief of the Division of River Plate Affairs.

Publications

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Treaties in Force: A List of Treaties and Other International Acts of the United States in Force on December 31, 1941. Publication 2103. viii, 275 pp. 40¢.
The Personnel Program of the Department of State: Principles and Policies. Publication 2129. 8 pp. 5¢.
Diplomatic List, June 1944. Publication 2138. ii, 121 pp. Subscription, \$1 a year; single copy, 10¢.

OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

"Sweden in 1943", by Grant Olson, Attaché, American Legation, Stockholm.
"Electronics in Peru", based on a report by Frederick W. Hinke, American Embassy, Lima.

These two articles will be found in the June 17, 1944 issue of the Department of Commerce publication entitled *Foreign Commerce Weekly*, copies of which may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, for 10 cents each.

Legislation

Caring for Refugees in the United States: Message from the President of the United States notifying the Congress that arrangements have been made to care for approximately 1,000 refugees in the United States. H. Doc. 656, 78th Cong. 3 pp.
Second Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1944: Hearings Before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, 78th Cong., 2d Sess., on the Second Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1944. [Department of State, pp. 174-190.] 445 pp.
Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1944. H. Rept. 1660, 78th Cong., on H. R. 5040. [Department of State, pp. 11, 12, 15, 26.] 28 pp.
Reconstruction Fund in Joint Account With Foreign Governments for Rehabilitation, Stabilization of Currencies,

JUNE 17, 1944

569

and Reconstruction: Hearings Before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 78th Cong., 2d Sess., on H.J. Res. 226, a joint resolution to provide for a central reconstruction fund to be used in joint account with foreign governments for rehabilitation, stabilization of currencies, and reconstruction, and for other purposes. 188 pp.

Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce Appropriation Bill, 1945: H. Rept. 1623, 78th Cong., on H. R. 4204. 1 p.

Certain Former Employees of the United States Court for China. H. Rept. 1670, 78th Cong., on H. R. 4080. 4 pp.

Removing Restrictions on Transfers of Small Craft to Other American Republics in Furtherance of the War Effort. H. Rept. 1675, 78th Cong., on H. R. 499. 4 pp.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1944

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.
Price, 10 cents - - - Subscription price, \$2.75 a year

PUBLISHED WEEKLY WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE BUDGET